



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,  
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## ***HALIMOLOBOS PERPLEXA* VAR *LEMHIENSIS*** **PUZZLING ROCKCRESS**

Puzzling Rockcress is a rosette-forming, short-lived perennial with 1-several erect stems that are 15-40 cm high and which arise from a simple or branched rootcrown. The lance-shaped basal leaves are 2-4 cm long and have petioles and deeply toothed to shallowly lobed margins. Upper stem leaves are smaller and sessile, and the foliage is covered with branched hairs. Stalked flowers occur at the stem tips in a compact, unbranched inflorescence that expands as the fruits mature. Each flower has 4 separate sepals, 4 separate, white petals that are 3-6 mm long, and 4 long and 2 short stamens. The style is ca. 1 mm long. The hairy, linear siliques are 1-2 cm long with a circular cross-section and are borne on erect to ascending stalks that are 10-17 mm long. Flowering in May-June, fruiting in June.

Leaves of *HALIMOLOBOS VIRGATA* clasp the stem, and the siliques are glabrous. Species of *ARABIS* usually have flattened siliques.